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Agenda item 36
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Letter dated 22 February 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a summary of Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon from 9 January to 17 February 2005, inclusive (see annex).

These grave violations are part of a series of persistent and provocative Israeli air, sea and land violations of Lebanese sovereignty, and intervene against international law, the resolutions of international legitimacy, and the repeated calls of the United Nations for their cessation.

In view of the escalation of Israeli threats against Lebanon, my Government relies upon the United Nations to deter and prevent Israel from indulging in such acts and holds Israel fully responsible for any consequences, since these acts constitute a threat to international peace and security.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim **Assaf**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

05-24835 (E) 010305

Annex to the letter dated 22 February 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

9 January 2005

At 1150 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned in Rweiset Alalam, Tallet, Al-abed and Tallet Rayak fired several artillery shells towards Kfarchouba, Kfarkila, Houla and Chanouh farm, resulting in the injury of a Lebanese citizen and damage to the school in Kfarkila and many houses in Houla.

10 January 2005

At 1809 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired a flare shell on the open sea.

11 January 2005

At 2119 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired two flare shells on the open sea.

12 January 2005

At 1809 hours, Israeli occupation forces, positioned in Ramta inside Chebaa farms, fired three 120-mm mortar rounds, which struck the surroundings of Birket Elnaqar inside the farms; and at 2024 hours fired two 120-mm mortar rounds, which struck the same position.

At 1809 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired several bursts of medium machine-gun fire on the open sea.

13 January 2005

Between 0650 and 0715 hours, Israeli occupation forces, positioned in Ramta inside Chebaa farms, fired three 120-mm mortar rounds, which struck the surroundings of Birket Elnaqar inside the farms; and between 1800 and 1840 hours fired several rounds of 155-mm artillery.

Between 0754 and 1355 hours and at 1735 hours, an Israeli gunboat off Ras-Naqoura fired several bursts of medium machine-gun fire on Lebanese territorial waters.

14 January 2005

Between 0710 and 0845 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned inside Chebaa farms fired seven 155-mm artillery rounds, which struck the surroundings of Birket El Naqar inside the farms; and between 1940 and 2010 hours fired 10 155-mm artillery rounds from its position in Zebdine inside the farms at the same location.

15 January 2005

At 0629 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned in Zebdine inside Chebaa farms fired three 155-mm artillery rounds, which hit the surroundings of Birket El

Naqar inside the farms; and between 1845 and 1900 hours fired several 155-mm artillery rounds from the same position at the same location.

16 January 2005

At 0655 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned inside Chebaa farms fired several 155-mm artillery rounds, which hit the surroundings of Birket El Naqar inside the farms.

17 January 2005

Between 1000 and 1105 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned inside Chebaa farms fired several 155-mm artillery rounds, which hit the outskirts of Kfarchouba-Halta and Bastra farm, and fired several 155-mm artillery rounds which hit the surroundings of Birket El Naqar; and between 1210 and 1230 hours fired from its position in Ramta (inside the farms) several tank rounds, which struck inside the farms.

At 1429 hours, Israeli occupation forces fired several 155-mm artillery rounds, which hit the outskirts of Kfarchouba-Halta and Bastra farm; between 1735 and 1840 hours fired several 155-mm artillery rounds which hit the outskirts of Chanouh and Birket El Naqar; and at 1930 hours fired two 155-mm artillery rounds which hit the surroundings of Birket El Naqar inside the farms.

18 January 2005

Between 1115 and 1200 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed east, and circled over Saida and Saadiyate.

20 January 2005

At 2149 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned in Samaqa inside Chebaa farms fired several bursts of light and medium machine-gun fire at the surroundings of this position.

24 January 2005

At 2010 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired a flare shell on the open sea.

Between 2210 and 0010 hours (25 January) and Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed to Beirut, and circled over Damour and Tyre.

25 January 2005

Between 1045 and 1325 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, and circled over Tyre, Nabatieh and Saida, and then over Khalde and Tyre.

Between 1815 and 1915 hours, two Israeli helicopters violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude over Chebaa farms.

Between 1755 and 1930 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired two flare shells and several bursts of medium machine-gun fire; and at 2029 hours fired a flare shell and several bursts of medium machine-gun fire on the open sea.

26 January 2005

Between 0720 and 1000 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, and circled over Saida, Tyre and Nabatieh.

Between 1100 and 1200 hours, four Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace at different altitudes, entered from above Chebaa farms and headed north. Two warplanes circled over southern Lebanon, and two warplanes circled over Chekka and Beirut.

Between 1108 and 1355 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above Rmaiche, and circled over Rmaiche, Maarake and Qana.

Between 1600 and 1805 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned in Fachkol inside Chebaa farms fired several bursts of light and medium machine-gun fire in different directions.

At 1830 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired several bursts of medium machine-gun fire on the open sea.

27 January 2005

Between 1410 and 1625 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above Rmaiche, headed north, and circled over Saida and Tyre.

Between 2100 and 2354 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed east, and circled over Beirut and Khalde.

Between 2255 and 0025 hours (28 January), an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Saida, headed east, and circled over Saida.

Between 1910 and 1915 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired a flare shell and several bursts of medium machine-gun fire on the open sea.

28 January 2005

Between 1635 and 1645 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned in Fachkol inside Chebaa farms fired several 155-mm artillery rounds, which struck Chanouh farm inside Lebanese territory.

30 January 2005

At 1429 hours, an Israeli gunboat in Lebanese territorial waters off Ras-Naqoura fired several bursts of medium machine-gun fire on the open sea, and at 1954 hours also fired several bursts of medium machine-gun fire on the open sea.

Between 1630 and 1715 hours, Israeli occupation forces, positioned in Zebdine inside Chebaa farms, fired several 120-mm mortar and 155-mm artillery rounds, which struck the surroundings of Chanouh farm inside Lebanese territory and the surroundings of Birket El Naqar inside the farms.

Between 1810 and 1830 hours, Israeli occupation forces positioned in Zebdine inside Chebaa farms, fired several 120-mm mortar and 155-mm artillery rounds, which struck the surroundings of Chanouh farm inside Lebanese territory and the surroundings of Birket El Naqar inside the farms.

Between 1810 and 1830 hours, Israeli helicopters violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude over Chebaa farms.

Between 1930 and 2220 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed north, and circled over Beirut and Saida.

Between 2020 and 2250 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, and circled over southern Lebanon.

10 February 2005

Between 0727 and 0805 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Beirut, and circled over Jounieh and Damour.

13 February 2005

Between 1100 and 1345 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Saida, headed east, circled over Damour, and then returned back south to Tyre.

Between 2115 and 2315 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed to Beirut, and circled over Beirut and Saida.

14 February 2005

Between 1705 and 2000 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed to Beirut, and circled over Damour and Tyre.

Between 2100 and 2203 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, circled over Tyre and Saida, then headed north to Jounieh, and circled over Chekka and Beirut.

Between 2105 and 2335 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, circled over Tyre and Saida, then headed north to Jounieh, and circled over Chekka and Beirut.

15 February 2005

Between 0530 and 0800 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, and circled over Tyre and Damour.

Between 1115 and 1415 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed east, and circled over Tyre, Nabatieh and Khalde.

17 February 2005

Between 0026 and 0102 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, and headed north.

Between 0525 and 0755 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, headed to Khalde, and circled over Saida and Khalde.

Between 0940 and 1200 hours, an Israeli drone aircraft violated Lebanese airspace at a medium altitude, entered from above the sea off Tyre, and circled over Saida, Tyre and Khalde.

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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Letter dated 23 February 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a comprehensive statistical table showing the number of Israeli violations between May 2000 and January 2005.

These grave violations are part of a series of persistent and provocative Israeli violations of Lebanese airspace and territory which are incompatible with the principles of international law, the resolutions of international legitimacy and your repeated calls for their cessation.

In view of these violations and the escalation of Israeli threats against Lebanon, its territorial integrity and people, Lebanon requests the United Nations to deter and prevent Israel from indulging in such grave acts which are a threat to international security and peace. Lebanon holds Israel fully responsible for any consequences to which those acts may give rise.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim **Assaf**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

05-24823 (E) 280205 280205

Annex to the letter dated 23 February 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Comprehensive statistical table showing the number of Israel violations between May 2000 and January 2005

	Air violations				*Sea violations*	*Land violations*			
						Military acts of aggression	*Field violations*	*Breaches*	
Year	*Military jet*	*Reconnaissance*	*Helicopter*	*Total*	*Crossing of territorial waters, shooting of signal and illumination flares*	*Air-raids, shelling of military positions and important centres*	*Artillery fire, gunfire, infiltration, setting up of installations inside Lebanese territory*	*Threats and display of weapons, bulldozing of soil, placing of barbed wire inside Lebanese territory*	***Total violations***
2000	87	34	28	149	11	24	21	12	**217**
2001	346	68	45	459	39	10	19	22	**549**
2002	212	128	38	378	49	19	30	16	**492**
2003	237	210	87	534	157	21	85	47	**844**
2004	195	236	98	529	288	22	154	58	**1 051**
2005 to date	16	67	6	49	17	7	21	5	**99**
Total	**1 093**	**703**	**302**	**2 098**	**561**	**103**	**330**	**160**	**3 252**

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The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Letter dated 24 February 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The date of 26 February 2005 will mark the thirteenth anniversary of the Khojaly genocide — a bloody crime against humanity committed by Armenian nationalists, the monstrous slaughter of the peaceful inhabitants of the town of Khojaly.

On the night of 25 to 26 February 1992, armed forces of the Republic of Armenia committed an unthinkable, brutal crime. They mercilessly massacred hundreds of helpless, innocent people. They did not spare even children, women or the elderly. As a result of the atrocities, 613 civilians, including old people, women and children, were murdered, 1,000 were disabled, and 1,275 persons were taken prisoner and subjected to unprecedented torture and humiliation. To this day, the fate of 150 persons is not known.

Various witnesses reported horrifying details of the massacre. The late Azerbaijani journalist Chingiz Mustafayev, who was the first to film the aftermath of the massacre, wrote an account of what he saw: "Some children were found with severed ears; the skin had been cut from the left side of an elderly woman's face; and men had been scalped."

The Russian human rights group Memorial reported that "scores of the corpses bore traces of profanation. Doctors on a hospital train in Aghdam noted no less than four corpses that had been scalped and one that had been beheaded ... and one case of live scalping".

Human Rights Watch called the tragedy at the time "the largest massacre to date in the conflict".

The *New York Times* wrote about truckloads of bodies and described acts of scalping.

05-24991 (E) 020305

The Khojaly massacre was the culmination of hostilities against the civilian population. "Hundreds, possibly thousands, were slaughtered in a turkey shoot of civilians and their handful of defenders. There were 477 that (one) day, a number that did not include those missing and presumed dead" -- according to accounts of those events by a freelance journalist, Thomas Goltz.[1]

As despicable as it may sound, the reason behind this unseen savagery is revealed by Defence minister of Armenia Serge Sarkissian in his interview to British journalist Tomas de Waal: "Before Khojaly the Azerbaijanis thought that ... the Armenians were people who could not raise their hands against the civilian population. We were able to break that [stereotype]."[2] No comments.

Regrettably, the international community's response was not adequate. Recently, the matter has been raised in the United States House of Representatives. It was exactly this insufficient reaction to which Congressman Dan Burton of Indiana drew the attention of his colleagues in his statement on 17 February 2005: "Ironically and tragically, none of these Members has ever once mentioned the ethnic cleansing carried out by the Armenians during the Armenia-Azerbaijan war which ended a mere decade ago." He concluded with the following appeal: "This is not the ringing condemnation that the survivors of Khojaly deserve, but it is an important first step by an international community that has too long been silent on this issue. Congress should take the next step and I hope my colleagues will join me in standing with Azerbaijanis as they commemorate the tragedy of Khojaly. The world should know and remember."

This year, as they have every year since the massacre, the residents of Khojaly, who managed to survive the massacre, issued an appeal to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe, the text of which I have the honour to submit to you, and patiently expect them to take appropriate steps to hold the perpetrators of this crime responsible.

The date of 26 February was proclaimed as Day of Khojaly Genocide and National Mourning by a decision of the Milli Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan. A minute of silence is kept every year on 26 February at 5 p.m. to honour the memory of the victims of the Khojaly genocide.

The moral consciousness of the world demands that this massacre be adequately accounted for as an act of genocide and that its victims be remembered just as those of Baby Yar, Khatyn and Srebrenica.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under item 163 of the agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

[1] **Thomas Goltz**, *Azerbaijan diary*, p. 150.
[2] **Tomas de Waal**, *Black Garden* (NYU Press, 2003), p. 85.

Annex to the letter dated 24 February 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Appeal of refugees from Khodjaly to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The aim of our appeal to such influential organizations as the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, is to bring the truth on the genocide which was committed in February 1992 in Khodjaly of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, to the attention of the world community and to call for making a legal-political assessment of this crime.

Everybody, who has an idea of the history of Azerbaijan, knows that Khodjaly, a settlement founded 3,000 years ago in the mountainous part of Karabakh, is one of the oldest settlements of Azerbaijanis. Rare exhibits and unique historical monuments revealed by archaeological excavation are vivid proof.

In order to realize their plan of creating "Great Armenia", Armenians, who erected a monument in 1978 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of their movement to Azerbaijan from Iran, had pursued a consistent policy of aggression against Azerbaijan in the last two centuries, with the assistance of their foreign accomplices, and committed such crimes against humanity as terrorism, omnicide, deportation and genocide.

Numerous historical documents prove that the millions of Azerbaijanis suffering ethnic cleansing and genocide in 1905-1907, 1918-1920, 1948-1953 in their historical ethnic territories were murdered in massive numbers and obliged to flee from their native lands.

Finally, Armenian separatism and groundless territorial claims against Azerbaijan were raised again in 1988 and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict started. Two hundred fifty-thousand Azerbaijanis to the last man, were deported from Armenia, and hundreds of civic persons were brutally killed. Consequently, Armenia became a mono-ethnic country, which was a long-cherished dream of the Armenians.

Unfortunately, the former Soviet leadership and civilized world remained indifferent to this conflict, the barbarity of the Armenians and the terrible plight of the Azerbaijanis. Encouraged by this indifference, Armenians successfully committed historical crime and genocide against Azerbaijanis. Twenty per cent of the territory of Azerbaijan, including seven regions around Nagorno-Karabakh, was occupied by Armenian armed forces, more than 1 million Azerbaijanis expelled from native lands, tens of thousands of people killed, disabled and taken hostage. Hundreds of settlements, thousands of houses, education and health institutions, historical-cultural monuments, mosques, temples, and cemeteries were destroyed, once more proving Armenian vandalism.

In the first years of the conflict, the tragedy and terrorism committed by Armenians against the Azerbaijani population of Karabakh in the villages of Kerkijahan, Mesheli, Koushjular, Karadaghly and Aghdaban, and finally the

Khodjaly genocide, are the historical stigma of the "suffering and miserable" Armenians.

We bring with regret to the attention of the world community that the Khodjaly genocide was another link in the chain of great human calamities of the twentieth century such as Khatyn, Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Songmi.

On 26 February 1992, Armenian armed forces, with the direct participation of the Motorized Infantry Regiment 366 of the former Soviet Union in Khankendi (Stepanakert), attacked Khodjaly from five directions. At that very time, 3,000 people remained in the town. Armenians had been keeping Khodjaly under complete siege during the previous four months. The population was in need of food and medicines. There were a number of sick, wounded, aged men, women and children in the town.

Armenians, with the assistance of their foreign accomplices, destroyed and burned the town with the heavy military equipment of Regiment 366. Innocent people were murdered, with children, women, the elderly and the sick being subject to awful tortures and mutilation. Armenians committed a very grave historical crime — the Khodjaly genocide against the Azerbaijanis at the end of the twentieth century, before the eyes of civilized humankind. The aim of this action was the omnicide of Khodjaly residents. The majority of the residents remained alive only accidentally to witness the tragedy.

In this genocide, 613 peaceful residents were murdered and 1,275 taken hostage. The fate of 150 people is still unknown. One thousand people were disabled, with 83 children, 106 women and 70 elderly among the killed. Seventy-eight of the mutilated were minor boys and girls.

As a result of this military-political crime, members of six families were murdered to the last man, 25 children lost both parents, and 130 children lost one of them. Fifty-six people were burned with special cruelty, tortured, beheaded, and blinded, ears, noses cut, pregnant women bayoneted.

It is difficult to imagine that this brutality and savageness, not having any match in history, was committed by human beings at the end of the twentieth century, before the eyes of humankind. But humanity should be aware that the perpetrators of this crime, committed against not only Azerbaijanis but all of mankind, are the "suffering and miserable" Armenians.

For 13 years we, the residents of Khodjaly, living the life of refugees, have appealed to all peaceful peoples and international organizations of the world, with heartache mixed with high hope. We beg you not to remain indifferent and neglect our sufferings and all the tragedy resulting from the Armenian military aggression. We do not believe that such authoritative organizations as the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as powerful nations, are incapable of bringing Armenia, a State that defies the civilized international community, to justice.

We are convinced that the world community, condemning the military aggression of Azerbaijan by Armenia, will assist in restoration of the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, the return of more than a million refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and the solution to the Armenia-Azerbaijan

conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh in a peaceful manner and in consonance with historical and political justice.

We, the residents of Khodjaly, met with profound grief the awful act of terrorism committed on 11 September 2001, which resulted in thousands of casualties. That terrible human tragedy took us back to the gory events of 26 February 1992. We, along with many thousands of Azerbaijani refugees, have suffered similar tragedy ourselves, and still live in miserable and severe conditions in tents, coaches, underground caves and vaults.

We, having suffered one of the most terrible tragedies of the twentieth century, call the peoples of the world to struggle together for peace and order. We, sounding the alarm to all international organizations, peaceful and authoritative nations, call upon humankind to mobilize to settle all conflicts on the Earth and to struggle for a free and prosperous community of people living in peace and order!

We, the witnesses of Khodjaly genocide, who miraculously outlived the tragedy, condemning all kinds of genocide and terrorism against humanity, once more appeal with high hope to the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the civilized world community, and call for rendering a legal and political assessment of the Khodjaly genocide.

The appeal was adopted at the general gathering of refugees from Khodjaly region on 19 February 2005.